

- to allow bending of the connector to properly align with a bone of the body;
- (D) at least one cable aperture extending through opposing sides of the superior end;
- (E) at least one cable aperture along the connector extending between the anterior and posterior sides of the connector;
- (F) at least one cable screw slot along the connector extending from the lateral side to the cable aperture;
- (G) at least one bone screw slot along the inferior end of the connector extending from the lateral side to the medial side;
- (H) a claw-like member at the superior end.

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**Remarks**

The Office Action of November 5, 2002 has been carefully reviewed and this paper is responsive thereto. In the Examiner's action, the drawings and specification were objected to and the claims were subject to a restriction requirement. By this response, Applicants have amended the specification, the abstract, and claims 16 and 32 and have cancelled claims 18 and 34. No new matter has been introduced into the application.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version With Markings to Show Changes Made.**"

**Objection to the Drawings**

The figures were objected to on the grounds that they are unclear. The Applicant propose submitting shortly revised line drawings of the figures having clearly written reference numerals and better represented figures.

**Objection to the Specification**

The specification was objected to on the grounds of certain informalities. The Applicant has amended the specification and the abstract to overcome the Examiner's objections. The Applicant will consider amending the title once the claims set to be examined has been established.

**Response to Restriction Requirement**

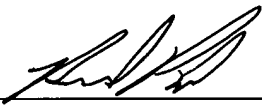
The Applicant elects, with traverse, the claims directed to Group I, namely claims 1-35, and 38-41. In response to the requirement for further election, the Applicant has amended claims 16 and 32 and has cancelled claims 18 and 34. Pursuant to a call with the Examiner, this amendment is believed to fully respond to the Examiner's restriction requirements.

**Conclusion**

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for her time in consideration of this Office Action during telephonic calls with the undersigned today and yesterday. For the foregoing reasons, the Applicant requests prompt and favorable consideration of the pending claims. Should there be any outstanding questions of patentability, the Examiner is respectfully urged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 12/5/02

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**In the Specification:**

On page 7, line 11 has been amended as follows:

FIGURES 5A and 5B are ~~is a lateral and anterior/posterior views, respectively, view of~~  
another embodiment of a the connector of FIGURE 3;

**In the Abstract:**

The Abstract has been amended as follows:

~~Disclosed is a~~ A method and apparatus for repairing the femur. A connector is provided having a claw-like member to engage with the greater trochanter. Along the body of the connector are a plurality of cable apertures and cable screws to receive and engage with cables that loop around the femur. Along the inferior end of the connector are bone screw slots and bone screws engaging the connector with the femur. The bone screws provide added support to the re-attached greater trochanter and provide support for periprosthetic fractures. The connector may be used to re-attach the greater trochanter by impacting a connector onto the greater trochanter, positioning the greater trochanter onto the femur, passing cables around the femur and through the connector, tensioning the cables to provide engagement between the greater trochanter and the femur, and attaching the connector to the femur using at least one bone screw.

**In the Claims:**

Claims 18 and 34 have been cancelled.

Claims 16 and 32 have been amended as follows:

16. **(Amended)** An apparatus for repairing a hip comprising in combination:
- (A) a connector having a superior end and an inferior end, a lateral side, a medial side opposite the lateral side, an anterior side, and a posterior side opposing the anterior side;
  - (B) at least one cable aperture along the connector; ~~and~~
  - (C) at least one cable aperture or surface groove along the superior end; and
  - (D) at least one claw member at the superior end.

32. **(Amended)** A system for repairing a femur comprising in combination:
- (A) a connector having a superior end and an inferior end, a lateral side, a medial side opposite the lateral side, an anterior side and a posterior side opposite the anterior side;
  - (B) a driver slot along the lateral side of the superior end;
  - (C) a transition portion in the connector between the inferior end and the superior end to allow bending of the connector to properly align with a bone of the body;
  - (D) at least one cable aperture extending through opposing sides of the superior end;
  - (E) at least one cable aperture along the connector extending between the anterior and posterior sides of the connector;
  - (F) at least one cable screw slot along the connector extending from the lateral side to the cable aperture; ~~and~~
  - (G) at least one bone screw slot along the inferior end of the connector extending from the lateral side to the medial side;
  - (H) a claw-like member at the superior end.